

# Romances of Progress

By Albert Payson Terhune

## SOLON—The Man Who Discovered Democracy.

The populace of Athens had gathered to hear a crazy man recite a poem. The poet's name was Solon. The Athenians regarded the violently insane as inspired of the gods. Solon's poem incited his fellow-countrymen to recapture the rich island of Salamis, which had been wrested from them in a recent war. Believing him the mouthpiece of the deity, they obeyed, and the expedition was a success. Then Solon suddenly became quite sane again. The people, realizing how cleverly he had tricked them into doing their country no great a service, made him "archon" (ruler) of the city and state of Athens.

This was what Solon had planned for. He found himself at once so popular that he might readily have declared himself absolute monarch and have ruled as a tyrant. Instead, he bent his genius to the betterment of his fellow men. Athens at this time was in wretched condition. A few of the wealthiest families held the reins of power and wrong unjust taxes from the people. The rich were daily growing richer and more arrogant. The poor daily waxed poorer.

Moreover, the criminal laws, dictated years before by a judge-ruler named Draco, were so harsh as to render life most uncertain. Death was the penalty for nearly every offense. The man who stole an apple suffered the same fate as he who murdered a whole family. Under all these conditions agriculture, commerce and manufacturing were at low ebb.

His first act of power was to free every debtor and cancel every debt. All mortgages were declared void, and people who had staggered under a weight of poverty and oppression were set on their feet again.

Now that the stress of poverty was relieved, Solon set to work building up the state. He made education compulsory and forced every young man to serve two years in the army reserves. He next created a political system that gave every citizen a share in the government. The poorest man was given a vote and had as much voice in affairs of state as had the

richest. This was the foundation of modern democracy; a government for and by the people. Such a scheme was regarded as sheer madness by many, but its instant success proved its worth. Popular elections, limited terms of office and a public rendering of accounts by every officeholder were the three chief features of these laws.

The people at large were put in complete control of public affairs. Any man over 30 could vote. Solon also appointed a senate, to which were eligible only such men as had acquitted themselves highly in public office. This body's duty was to advise the state. But the people had full power to veto its commands, thus giving senators authority only as long as they held the voters' confidence.

Popular government without anarchy, liberty without license, fair play for rich and poor alike and the general uplifting of people and country—these were Solon's aim. And he achieved them. The Doctrine of Fair Play for the plain people All received freedom and justice.

Thousands of Athenians, under the former unjust rule had emigrated. To restore this deficit Solon tried to induce these expatriates to return and also offered inducements for foreigners to settle in Athens. To avoid indiscriminate immigration he forced each newcomer to pay an annual tax.

Most men would have been satisfied at all this. Solon was not. To learn more about government he left Greece in his old age and traveled for ten years in the various best-governed countries of the world, trying to acquire new ideas for the aggrandizement of Athens. On these travels he was welcomed everywhere as the greatest man of his day. King Croesus of Lydia, the richest monarch in the world.

He returned at last to Athens and strove to put into effect the new reforms he had gathered during his pilgrimage. In 559 B. C., at the age of 80, the Father of Democracy died, having accomplished more for the people and for posterity than any other man who had ever lived.

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## LYCURGUS -- Father of Equality, Patriotism and Socialism

A young nobleman had just come back to Sparta. He had left home years before, for what his friends deemed the most foolish of reasons. He had actually been dissatisfied with the wild, barbaric lawlessness of Sparta and had gone to Egypt, India and other civilized lands to study the art of good government. Now that he had gained such knowledge he proceeded to put his learning to instant use. Thanks to his high rank and the favor he enjoyed from King Labotas of Sparta, this returned traveler, Lycurgus by name, had a free field for work.

He found Sparta groaning under misrule, ignorance and barbarism. The nobles ground down the people. The people hated the nobles. The government was lax, the country poor. Lycurgus' first step was to confiscate all property, divide it into equal portions and distribute it fairly among the Spartans. He next broke up the old tyrannical system of arbitrary rule and ordained a senate of 28 men (elected for life), all of them over 60 years old. Instead of one king, he chose two.

Every citizen was a voter. The senate was elected by the people and its commands could be set aside by them. Senators were at once lawmakers, under appeal and secret Government by direction of Lycurgus, and judges in civil and criminal trials. In addition to these were appointed a board of magistrates (known as ephors), whose duty it was to protect the people's rights and to act as a restraining influence on the kings.

Now that he had arranged for the people's temporal and political welfare by a system of socialism and popular government, Lycurgus turned his attention to a still greater need. Sparta was a small, rather barren country, sandwiched in among larger, richer lands. Lycurgus saw it was only a question of time before one of these stronger powers should seek to annex Sparta.

Sparta's only hope was in her army. So he made practically all the populace one vast army. It was a clear case of the survival of the fittest. From the age of seven boys were placed in the care of the state and were thenceforth subjected to an endless course of discipline, pain and work. They were taught to go for days without food or sleep; to endure

tortures, perils and hardships that would kill an ordinary man. They were trained by the severest system of athletics and instructed in the use of every weapon.

As a result, every Spartan lad, by the time he reached manhood, was not only an ideal soldier, but considered it childish to give signs of pain or fatigue. He was a perfectly developed human machine. There was little or no home life for him. His future was at the service of the state, not of himself. Sickly children were put to death. A stupid man had no chance in life. Power of body and shrewdness of mind alike were necessary for success, or even existence in that stern community. Sobriety and strict temperance were the watch-words of the country. Boys were made to gaze on the antics of a drunken helot to disgust them with tipping. They were shown the reasons for other nations' fall, to warn them against the same faults. To promote personal equality, every Spartan was obliged to contribute his share of food to a common table. At these public tables on terms of familiarity, all were forced to eat from king to commoner.

Women, in olden times, were looked on as little better than slaves. Lycurgus changed all this. To him women owe much of their present high position. For he gave their sex its first impetus toward betterment by declaring women the equal of men. As mothers of future warriors he demanded that they be treated with all reverence. Girls were taught wrestling, boxing, running and other athletic sports and acquired the more rugged virtues of courage and self-sacrificing patriotism. A Spartan mother never went to her son's death.

Having lifted his country from barbarism to high civilization and set it on the road of progress, Lycurgus announced that he was going on a long journey and made the Spartans take a solemn oath to abide by all his laws and reforms until he should return. He never returned. No one knows what became of him; whether he killed himself or hid somewhere in voluntary exile until his death. In order that Sparta might forever keep the oath to obey his precepts until he came back to take up again the reins of government.

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## A SURE SIGN.

When It Appears Act at Once.

Trouble with the kidney secretions is a certain sign that your kidneys are deranged and that you should use Doan's Kidney Pills. They cure all irregularities and annoyances, remove backache and side pains and restore the kidneys to health.



Charles Cole, 204 N. Buckeye St., Iowa, Kan., says: "The kidney secretions were irregular, scanty and painful and contained sediment. My back was stiff and lame and my limbs swelled. I grew weak and discouraged. Doan's Kidney Pills removed these troubles entirely. I have been well for two years."

Remember the name—Doan's. Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-McIlburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

## A LONG WAY BACK.



George—There's Miss Passay. She claims she's never been kissed.

Harry—Why, I've kissed her myself, years ago. She means not since she can remember.

## The Water Bite.

He was six years old and had never gazed into the mystic lens of a microscope. Several slides containing animalcula had been displayed to his astonished vision. He was too amazed to make any comment until he came to one slide that seemed more wriggly than any of the others. It was merely a drop of water.

The little fellow gazed at it a long time, with all its amiable particles of animal life, and finally exclaimed to his mother:

"Oh, mamma, now I know what it is that bites you when you drink soda water!"

## Defined.

"Say, pop, what's civil service?"

"Eh? It's an act governing the service in the department, the customs, the postal, the government printing—"

"But, dad, what does it mean?"

"Mean? It means where a busy man rushes into the postoffice to buy some stamps, falls in line, waits an hour and 20 minutes before reaching the window—then, after tendering a hundred-dollar bill, hears the tall-faced clerk murmur pleasantly:

"Wholesale stamps at the next window, please!"—Bohemian.

## THE NEW WOMAN

Made Over by Quitting Coffee.

Coffee probably wrecks a greater percentage of Southerners than of Northern people for Southerners use it more freely.

The work it does is distressing enough in some instances; as an illustration, a woman of Richmond, Va., writes:

"I was a coffee drinker for years and for about six years my health was completely shattered. I suffered fearfully with headache and nervousness, also palpitation of the heart and loss of appetite.

"My sight gradually began to fail and finally I lost the sight of one eye altogether. The eye was operated upon and the sight partially restored, then I became totally blind in the other eye.

"My doctor used to urge me to give up coffee, but I was willful and continued to drink it until finally in a case of severe illness the doctor insisted that I must give up the coffee, so I began using Postum, and in a month I felt like a new creature.

"I steadily gained in health and strength. About a month ago I began using Grape-Nuts food and the effect has been wonderful. I really feel like a new woman and have gained about 25 pounds.

"I am quite an elderly lady and before using Postum and Grape-Nuts I could not walk a square without exceeding fatigue, now I walk ten or twelve without feeling it. Formerly in reading I could remember but little but now my memory holds fast what I read.

Several friends who have seen the remarkable effects of Postum and Grape-Nuts on me have urged that I give the facts to the public for the sake of suffering humanity, so, although I dislike publicity, you can publish this letter if you like."

Read "The Road to Wellville," in pgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

## HIS PLEASURE A LATE ONE.

Probably Mr. Hogan Did Not Realize Just What Might Be Made of His Expression.

Casey was dead, and to do honor to him the members of the Thirtieth district Tammany organization attended the funeral in a body, says the New York Press. Slowly and sadly they filed past the coffin and took a last look at their departed comrade. At the door each man paused to shake hands with the sorrowing widow and to murmur a few words of condolence. When it came to Mr. Hogan's turn, he retained possession of her hand, while he delivered a lengthy oration concerning the good qualities of the deceased Mr. Casey.

"Sure, 'tis plain you knew my husband well, sir," said the tearful Mrs. Casey.

"Only by sight, ma'am, only by sight," Mr. Hogan hastened to explain. "I never had the pleasure of meetin' him 'til to-day."

## ITCHED FOR TWELVE YEARS.

Eczema Made Hands and Feet Swell, Peel and Get Raw—Arms Affected, Too—Gave Up All Hope of Cure.

Quickly Cured by Cuticura.

"I suffered from eczema on my hands, arms and feet for about twelve years, my hands and feet would swell, sweat and itch, then would become callous and get very dry, then peel off and get raw. I tried most every kind of salve and ointment without success. I tried several doctors, but at last gave up thinking there was a cure for eczema. A friend of mine insisted on my trying the Cuticura Remedies, but I did not give them a trial until I got so bad that I had to do something. I secured a set and by the time they were used I could see a vast improvement and my hands and feet were healed up in no time. I have had no trouble since. Charles T. Bauer, Volant, Pa., Mar. 11, 1908."

Petter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Mfrs., Boston.

## Widow to Widowers.

Mr. Robert Marshall, a well-known London police court missionary, recently received the following letter:

"Dear Sir: Reading of you sometimes in newspapers, I take the liberty of asking if you know of a very respectable man wishes to get married again. I have been a widow for years now and am all alone in the world. Trusting to your honor and remaining yours respectfully, Mrs. —, middle age."

## Mothers' Day in England.

Provincial England is smiling in a superior way at America's belated discovery that the country ought to celebrate mother's day. In the villages of Cornwall, Devonshire and Lancashire mother's day has been a recognized institution for generations. It is celebrated on mid-Lent Sunday.

## Does Not Irritate

"I have found Simmons' Liver Purifier the mildest and most pleasant in action, yet the surest remedy for constipation, torpid liver and all kindred troubles. I have ever used. It does not irritate or gripe." Very truly, S. P. Cleary, Jackson, Tenn.

Put up in tin boxes only. Price 25c.

## Exceptions.

"You don't have to be enthusiastic to succeed in some things," said the boarding-house philosopher; "I once saw a man achieve a speed of a mile a minute sliding down a mountain side, without the slightest effort on his part and without having had any ambition to do it."

With a smooth iron and Defiance Starch, you can launder your shirt-waist just as well at home as the steam laundry can; it will have the proper stiffness and finish, there will be less wear and tear of the goods, and it will be a positive pleasure to use a Starch that does not stick to the iron.

## A Hot Prescription.

"I want you to prescribe for me, doctor," said the mallow-complexioned man. "I have cold feet; what would you suggest?"

"A ton of coal," promptly replied the witty physician. "Five dollars, please."

## Howdy!

How's your liver? If not in first-class condition, doing full duty and giving entire satisfaction Simmons' Liver Purifier will fix it so you'll think it's gone—its troubles will be gone. Put up in tin boxes only. Price 25c per box.

## Half Done.

"Your husband has merely fainted." "Dear, dear, these men always do things by halves." — Meggendorfer Director.

Greens are good for you. So is the fresh juice of crushed mint leaves in real Wrigley's Spearmint with a spear on it.

The man who is only marking time is most likely to be singing about marching to Zion.

**Now! THEN!**  
**CHEW**  
  
**THEN**  
You'll enjoy this.

## MITCHELL'S EYE SALVE

**MITCHELL'S EYE SALVE**  
Simple Safe Sure

Do not drag the eye when inflamed or in an unhealthy state. Mitchell's Eye Salve is applied externally; subdues inflammation so readily, few cases require more than one bottle to be permanently cured.

HALL & RUCKEL, New York City  
Makers of SOZODONT

## Paxtine TOILET ANTISEPTIC

NOTHING LIKE IT FOR

**THE TEETH** Paxtine cleans and disinfects and removing tartar from the teeth, besides destroying all germs of decay and disease which ordinary tooth preparations cannot do.

**THE MOUTH** Paxtine used as a mouth-wash disinfects the mouth and throat, purifies the breath, and kills the germs which collect in the mouth, causing sore throat, bad teeth, bad breath, grippe, and much sickness.

**THE EYES** when inflamed, tired, ache and burn, may be instantly relieved and strengthened by Paxtine.

**CATARH** Paxtine will destroy the germs that cause catarh, heal the inflammation and stop the discharge. It is a sure remedy for uterine catarrh.

Paxtine is a harmless yet powerful germicide, disinfectant and deodorizer. Used in bathing it destroys odors and leaves the body antiseptically clean.  
FOR SALE AT DRUG STORES, 50c. OR POSTPAID BY MAIL.  
**LARGE SAMPLE FREE!**  
THE PAXTON TOILET CO., BOSTON, MASS.

## SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Headaches, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. Purely Vegetable.

They regulate the bowels. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

**CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.**

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature

**REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.**

## Nothing Like

them in the world. CASCARETS the biggest seller—why? Because it's the best medicine for the liver and bowels. It's what they will do for you—not what we say they will do—that makes CASCARETS famous. Millions use CASCARETS and it is all the medicine that they ever need to take.

CASCARETS is a box for a week's treatment. All druggists. Biggest seller in the world. Million boxes a month.

**PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM**  
Cleanses and beautifies the scalp. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cuts scalp itching & dandruff. 50c and \$1.00 at druggists.

**MCCANE'S DETECTIVE AGENCY**  
Houston, Texas, operates the largest force of competent detectives in the South, they render written opinions in cases not handled by them. Reasonable rates.

**WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT**